

Proceeding: COMPUTER III FURTHER REMAND PROCEEDING: BELL OPERATING COM Record 1 of 1

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Proceeding Name: 95-20 Author Name: James Risner

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INTERNET FILING

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95-20

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I applied March 1997 for CLEC with GTE.

I requested an agreement with which I could obtain raw copper and fiber to operate my own services. I was not interested in selling services GTE provided. I wanted to sell services GTE did not provide directly or services GTE did not provide well. This list included:

ISDN BRI, ISDN PRI, ADSL, RADSL, T1 DDS, 56K DDS, etc.

I was returned a several hundred page contract which was a resell and co-location agreement. I have since worked very hard to force GTE to make the contract more narrow in scope and to included "dry" copper so that I can sell T1 and and ADSL over these dry copper wire facilities. I have not been able to obtain said contract alterations.

GTE has said that since others have signed the contract I was provided that they do not need to provide my type of contract alterations.

AT&T last year made a statement for the local paper, that they had ended talks with GTE about selling local service, because GTE was "uncooperative". I have documentation to back up these claims and statements.

I strongly suggest more is done to force GTE and likely others to open these unbundled portions to competition. Since with dry copper, I can operate and sell most of GTE's same services, if I have access to these facilities at a resonable rate, there can be much more competition.

The reason I wish to sell ISDN and other services:

1) I have been utilizing as many as 24 ISDN BRI lines since 1995.

GTE has never once (not even one month) gotten any of these bills billed the same as the Kentucky state tariff for ISDN BRI specifies. They seem to have problems reading clear english, as no one I have had independently review the tariff has concluded any other meaning that I had. This type of blatant disregard for law should not be allowed.

2) GTE is usually late for commitment dates for circuits.

I ordered an ISDN BRI on October 30 1997, and was told 2 weeks. It was fianlly installed Jan 28, 1998.

James Risner

Please contact me, if you require any more comments or documentation.

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INTERNET FILING

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In the State of Wyoming, US West -- the incumbent local exchange carrier in the majority of the state -- has run roughshod over private businesses and ISPs by doing everything in its power to prevent the deployment of competitive solutions for data transport. In particular, it has attempted to withdraw its tariffs for LADS (Local Area Data Service), also known as "dry copper," claiming that this service is obsolete -- when in fact many businesses now desire to use the local loop with their own ADSL equipment. These include ISPs, which US West has treated in a prejudicial manner. Several cases related to US West's efforts to prevent small regional ISPs from gaining a foothold have been brought before the state's Public Service Commission. Unfortunately, a telecommunications deregulation act has rendered the Public Service Commission virtually powerless to prevent this monopoly carrier from engaging in price gouging, raising barriers to entry, and competing unfairly in the area of data communications services. Hence, the opening of the local loop on the Federal level is essential. Ideally, the local loop would be open not only to telecommunications providers but to all comers -- since, again, US West is seeking to deprive local businesses of the opportunity to rent LADS lines for private use. Please work toward this result as well as working to ensure that ISPs -- a subset of this group of private businesses -- gain access to unbundled local loop elements. (Included in this should be "subloop unbundling" -- that is, the ability to rent pairs of wire between two points without extending the connection through the Central Office. Efforts at providing high-speed communications could be crippled if the data must take an unnecessarily circuitous route.) Again, please seek to open the local loop AT LEAST to ISPs -- and, hopefully, to banks, small businesses with multiple offices, and other businesses which are otherwise at the mercy of the incumbent carrier.

Proceeding: COMPUTER III FURTHER REMAND PROCEEDING: BELL OPERATING COM Record 1 of 1
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I am writing to support access to unbundled network elements -- the local loop -
- by

ISPs and even other business entities.

I am the cochair of the Wyoming Governor's Telemedicine Task Force. One of our problems in

Wyoming is how best to use existing infrastructure, especially how to connect multiple health

care providers at the local level, and then allow them connectivity to the greater phone network.

In my practice we are currently using a LADS line with DSL modems to connect two offices, and our hospital

has about four of these in place connecting the campus to doctor's offices. This network is important

for the exchange of patient information and other data. Unfortunately, our carrier (US West) has asked

that the LADS tariff be terminated, which will leave all of us at their mercy.

We will have to spend

a LOT more money for LESS bandwidth than we get with a simple bare twisted pair of wires.

Moreover, the phone company has a policy requiring that the circuit pass through their central office --

no field bridges. This turns the 600 foot distance between our offices into a 1.5 mile circuit, and creates

distances for some offices that make deployment of DSL technology impossible.

Allowing competitors, like ISPs and others, to rent pieces -- or all -- of the local loop will do nothing

but stretch the capabilities of the existing infrastructure, and will serve to augment my ability to provide

care to my patients.

Thanks for your consideration.

Geoffrey Smith, MD